

Amendments

I. In the Claims

Please amend the claims as shown below.

1. (thrice amended) A system for loading or unloading a container or other structure from a transport vehicle comprising, in combination,

a. an elongated body removably attached to a transport vehicle, where the elongated body has an outside and a length defined by a front located adjacent to a transport vehicle cab, and a rear located opposite the front;

b. a carriage slidably attached to the outside of the elongated body that is substantially rectangular in shape and adapted to remain in a linear plane defined by the elongated body, where the carriage travels from the rear to the front of the elongated body during loading of a container onto the transport vehicle and has no means to directly connect to a container or other structure;

c. a plurality of rollers attached to the elongated body that can engage the container or other structure being loaded or unloaded onto the elongated body;

d. a multi-stage central hydraulic cylinder having a fixed end and a moving end, where the fixed end is attached to the rear of the elongated body and the moving end is attached to the carriage such that extending and retracting the central hydraulic cylinder moves the carriage from the rear of the elongated body to the front of the elongated body;

e. means for releasably engaging a container or other structure, where the engaging means is connected to and moves with the carriage along the entire length of the elongated body when the central hydraulic cylinder is extended or retracted ,where extension of the central cylinder causes movement of the carriage to the front and necessarily causes the container or other structure attached to the engaging means to be loaded onto the elongated body; and

f. a first pair of hydraulic cylinders connected to the vehicle frame and to the elongated body and oriented such that when the pair of cylinders are extended the front of elongated body is lifted to a position above the rear of the elongated body.

2. (original) The system of claim 1 where the engaging means is a jib and hook lift combination that engages a lift bar or other connector on the container or structure, and the elongated body contains a second pair of hydraulic cylinders attached to the carriage and to the engaging means.

3. (original) The system of claim 1 where a cable sheave is attached to the carriage.

4. (original) The system of claim 3 where a cable slidably engages the cable sheave and has a fixed end and a free end and where the fixed end is attached to the elongated body or the central hydraulic cylinder, and the free end is configured to releasably engage the container or structure.

5.(thrice amended) A system for loading or unloading a container or other structure from transport vehicle comprising, in combination,

a. an elongated body removably attached to a transport vehicle frame, where the elongated body has an outside and a length defined by a front located adjacent to a transport vehicle cab and a rear located opposite the front;

b. a carriage slidably attached to the outside of the elongated body that is substantially rectangular in shape and adapted to remain in a linear plane defined by the

elongated body, where the carriage travels from the rear to the front of the elongated body during loading of a container onto the transport vehicle and has no means to directly connect to a container or other structure;

c. a plurality of rollers attached to the elongated body that can engage a container or other structure being loaded or unloaded onto the elongated body;

d. a multi-stage central hydraulic cylinder having a fixed end and a moving end, where the fixed end is attached to the rear of the elongated body and the moving end is attached to the carriage such that extending and retracting the central hydraulic cylinder moves the carriage from the rear of the elongated body to the front of the elongated body and necessarily causes the container or other structure attached to the engaging means to be loaded onto the elongated body;

e. a cable sheave attached to the carriage;

f. a cable slidably engaging the cable sheave that has a fixed end and a free end, where the fixed end is attached to the elongated body or the central hydraulic cylinder, and the free end is configured to releasably engage a container or structure; and

g. a pair of hydraulic cylinders connected to the elongated body and to the transport vehicle frame oriented such that when the pair of cylinders are extended the front of elongated body is lifted to a position above the rear of the elongated body.

6.(thrice amended) A system for loading or unloading a container or other structure from a transport vehicle comprising, in combination,

a. an elongated body removably attached to a transport vehicle, where the elongated body has an outside and a length defined by a front located adjacent to a transport vehicle cab and a rear located opposite the front;

b. a carriage slidably attached to the outside of the elongated body that is substantially rectangular in shape and adapted to remain in a linear plane defined by the elongated body, where the carriage travels from the rear to the front of the elongated body during loading of a container onto the transport vehicle and has no means to directly connect to a container or other structure;

c. a plurality of rollers attached to the elongated body that can engage a container or other structure being loaded or unloaded onto the elongated body;

d. a multi-stage central hydraulic cylinder having a fixed end and a moving end, where the fixed end is attached to the rear of the elongated body and the moving end is attached to the carriage such that extending and retracting the central hydraulic cylinder moves the carriage from the rear of the elongated body to the front of the elongated body and necessarily causes the container or other structure attached to the engaging means to be loaded onto the elongated body;

e. a hook and jib to releasably engage a container or other structure, where the hook and jib is connected to and moves with the carriage when the central hydraulic cylinder is extended or retracted; and

f. a first pair of hydraulic cylinders connected to the vehicle frame and to the elongated body and oriented such that when the pair of cylinders are extended the front of elongated body is lifted to a position above the rear of the elongated body.

7. (twice amended) A system for loading or unloading a container or other structure from a transport vehicle comprising, in combination,

a. an elongated body removably attached to a transport vehicle, where the elongated body has an outside and a length defined by a front located adjacent to a transport vehicle cab and a rear located opposite the front;

b. a carriage slidably attached to the outside of the elongated body that is substantially rectangular in shape and adapted to remain in a linear plane defined by the elongated body, where the carriage travels from the rear to the front of the elongated body during loading of a container onto the transport vehicle and has no means to directly connect to a container or other structure;

c. a multi-stage central hydraulic cylinder having a fixed end and a moving end, where the fixed end is attached to the rear of the elongated body and the moving end is attached to the carriage such that extending and retracting the central hydraulic cylinder moves the carriage from the rear of the elongated body to the front of the elongated body and necessarily causes the container or other structure attached to the engaging means to be loaded onto the elongated body;

d. means for releasably engaging a container or other structure, where the engaging means is connected to and moves with the carriage along the entire length of the elongated body when the central hydraulic cylinder is extended or retracted; and

e. a first pair of hydraulic cylinders connected to the vehicle frame and to the elongated body and oriented such that when the pair of cylinders are extended the front of elongated body is lifted to a position above the rear of the elongated body.

8. (currently amended) A system for loading or unloading a container or other structure from a transport vehicle comprising, in combination,

a. an elongated body removably attached to a transport vehicle, where the elongated body has an outside and a length defined by a front located adjacent to a transport vehicle cab and a rear located opposite the front;

b. a carriage slidably attached to the outside of the elongated body that is substantially rectangular in shape and adapted to remain in a linear plane defined by the elongated body, where the carriage travels from the rear to the front of the elongated body during loading of a container onto the transport vehicle and has no means to directly connect to a container or other structure;

c. a multi-stage central hydraulic cylinder having a fixed end and a moving end, where the fixed end is attached to the rear of the elongated body and the moving end is attached to the carriage such that extending and retracting the central hydraulic cylinder moves the carriage from the rear of the elongated body to the front of the elongated body and necessarily causes the container or other structure attached to the engaging means to be loaded onto the elongated body;

d. means for releasably engaging a container or other structure, where the engaging means is connected to and moves with the carriage along the entire length of the elongated body when the central hydraulic cylinder is extended or retracted; and

e. a first pair of hydraulic cylinders connected to the vehicle frame and to the elongated body and oriented such that when the pair of cylinders are extended the front of elongated body is lifted to a position above the rear of the elongated body.